<u>IN THE CLAIMS</u>

Please amend Claims 20, 26 and 46. The following is a complete listing of claims and replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the present application:

Claims 1-19 (Canceled)

Claim 20 (currently amended): A communication system comprising:

a source node;

one or more destination nodes, each of which includes a receiving buffer; and

a controller adapted to set a logical connection between the source node and the one or more destination nodes <u>and notify the source node and the one or more destination nodes regarding the logical connection</u>, wherein

the source node is adapted to divide data to be transmitted to the one or more destination nodes into a plurality of segment data, and transfer each segment data with information for identifying the logical connection <u>notified by the controller</u> to ~~each of~~ the one or more destination nodes , and

each of the one or more destination nodes is adapted to store ~~the~~ <u>each</u> segment data in the receiving buffer.

Claims 21-25 (canceled)

Claim 26 (currently amended): A communication method <u>for a communication</u>

- 3 -

system that includes a source node, one or more destination nodes, each of which includes a receiving buffer, and a controller adapted to set a logical connection between the source node and the one or more destination nodes and notify the source node and the one or more destination nodes the logical connection, the method comprising steps of:

setting [[a]] the logical connection between [[a]] the source node and one or more destination nodes, wherein each of the one or more destination nodes includes a receiving buffer;

dividing data to be transmitted to the one or more destination nodes into a plurality of segment data;

transferring each segment data with information for identifying the logical connection notified by the controller from the source node to each of the one or more destination nodes;

storing the each segment data in the receiving buffer of each of the one or more destination nodes.

Claims 27-35 (canceled)

Claim 36 (previously presented) The communication system according to claim 20, wherein each of the one or more destination nodes is adapted to notify information about a size of the receiving buffer to the source node after preparation for receiving the segment data is completed.

Claims 37 and 38 (canceled)

Claim 39 (previously presented) The communication system according to claim 20, wherein the source node and the one or more destination nodes include a data communication unit that conforms with an IEEE1394-1995 standard.

Claim 40 (canceled)

Claim 41 (previously presented) The communication method according to claim 26, further comprising a step of notifying information about a size of the receiving buffer from each of the one or more destination nodes to the source node after preparation for receiving the segment data is completed.

Claims 42 and 43 (canceled)

Claim 44 (previously presented) The communication method according to claim 26, wherein the source node and the one or more destination nodes include a data communication unit that conforms with an IEEE 1394-1995 standard.

Claim 45 (canceled)

Claim 46 (currently amended): A communication apparatus comprising:

a dividing unit adapted to divide data to be transmitted to one or more destination nodes into a plurality of segment data, each of the one or more includes a receiving buffer; and

a data communication unit adapted to transfer each segment data with information for identifying ~~the~~ a logical connection to ~~each of~~ the one or more destination nodes,

wherein the logical connection is set between the communication apparatus and the one or more destination nodes by a controller, and notified the communication apparatus and the one or more destination nodes by the controller.

Claim 47 (previously presented) The communication apparatus according to claim 46, wherein each of the one or more destination nodes is adapted to notify information about a size of receiving buffer to the communication apparatus after preparation for receiving the segment data is completed.

Claim 48 (previously presented) The communication apparatus according to claim 46, wherein the data communication unit conforms to an IEEE 1394-1995 standard.